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*Luxemburg and Her Neighbors, a Record of the Political Fortunes of the Present Grand Duchy from the Eve of the French Revolution to the Great War, with a Preliminary Sketch of Events from 963 to 1780.* By RUTH PUTNAM. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1918. Pp. xiv, 484. \$2.50.)

THIS volume falls into that class of historical works designed to popularize for American readers the story of the peoples of the problem-areas raised by the war. As such it is very much above the ordinary book of this class, for it reveals throughout the author's special knowledge of the history of this much disputed border-land between Latin and Teuton. Indeed, the interest in the history of Burgundy and of the Netherlands is at times a little too evident, for it leads off into by-paths, interesting enough in themselves, but not essential in their detail to the story of Luxemburg proper. In a measure this is excusable, because "the little forest canton" was never permitted to live its own life. It was successively associated first with one, then with another of its neighbors. Its history is, says the author, "a record of compacts and treaties made for, and never by Luxemburg". Fortunately her writing of it is better than her theory, for she devotes at least one strong chapter to the life of the people, and occasionally throughout the rest of the work there are good passages relating to the economic and social life, that tend to lift the story out of the domain of international relations pure and simple.

The main part of the volume is in two divisions. The first is devoted to a survey of Eight Centuries of Luxemburg History from 936 to 1780. The second deals with the period from the French Revolution to the Great War. The story is told in a spirited and interesting manner. It carries the reader rapidly over the early settlement and the first overlords, through the successive periods of Luxemburg history in which are reflected in miniature so many of the larger historical movements of Western Europe. Thus we pass from the creation of the duchy and the Luxemburg emperors through the rule of the House of Burgundy, the transfer to the House of Hapsburg, the fate of the duchy in the conflict between Hapsburg and Bourbon, its vicissitudes under French domination, its erection into a grand duchy of the Germanic Confederation under the King of the Netherlands by the Congress of Vienna, its rôle in the efforts of Napoleon III. to secure compensation for the aggrandizement of Prussia, and the neutralization of the duchy in 1867, to its violation by Germany in August of 1914.

There is an occasional slip in the proof-reading, as for example the addition by Prussia of forty-one and a half millions to her population (p. 332), and some peculiarities of expression, like "the general forlornity of existence" and the use of "Charles Quint" for Charles V. The notes, which are often very suggestive, are judiciously brought in at the end, along with a summary of the treaties and conventions and an

extended list of books consulted. No estimate of their value is offered, save in a very few cases. In one of these the commendation of the faulty and wretchedly edited *Archives Parlementaires* as "very admirable and useful" is far from scholarly. The illustrations are well chosen; they really illustrate, though the tendency is rather antiquarian.

The last chapter deals with the fate of the duchy during the war, and the different proposals as to its future status. That the independence of a state of less than one thousand square miles and 259,891 inhabitants should be continued, even in these days of self-determination, is very doubtful, especially when "in economic relations, in facility of transportation and communication, Luxemburg is bound hand and foot".

*Geschichte der Ukraine.* Teil I. Von MICHAEL HRUSCHEWSKYJ, Professor der Geschichte an der Universität in Lemberg. (Lemberg: "Bund zur Befreiung der Ukraine". 1916. Pp. viii, 224.)

THIS German edition is a translation of Professor Grushevski's Russian book *Ocherk Istorii Ukrainskavo Naroda* (Petrograd, 1911). This volume I. of the German work traces the history of the Ukrainians—their political, economic, social, and cultural development—from the ninth to the seventeenth century. Chapters I. and II. discuss the present home of the Ukrainians, their past and present ethnographic frontiers in Russia, Austria, and Hungary, their distinct culture, their peculiar language, their national aspirations; chapters III. to XIII. deal with historical questions.

Professor Grushevski is an eminent historian and an ardent Ukrainian nationalist who played a prominent part in Ukrainian affairs during the summer and autumn of 1917. He writes history from the point of view of a Ukrainian nationalist and the reader must always keep that in mind. He proves to his own satisfaction that the Ukrainians are a people different from their neighbors, the Great Russians, that the Ukrainians have had, more or less always, a national consciousness and democratic ideal of government which they have failed to realize on account of the oppression of Poland and Russia (Moscow). It is against this reading into history and this interpretation of historical facts that the reader should be on his guard. On the whole Professor Grushevski is a scholarly historian; he sometimes misinterprets but he seldom distorts the facts. After reading his books one may end by differing with him but still respecting him.

Unfortunately for Professor Grushevski and his book, it fell into the hands of the "Bund zur Befreiung der Ukraine", an organization formed at the outbreak of the war by Austria and later taken over by Germany for the purpose of pulling the Ukraine away from Russia and stirring up hatred between the Ukrainians and the Great Russians and Poles. Thanks to the Bund this object was almost realized in 1917-1918

In the work of Professor Grushevski the Bund saw a splendid instru-